

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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P R 142220Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0408

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 5248

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, CGEN, GE, GW, US

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR SIEBER'S AND FOREIGN MINISTRY GEYER'S COMMENTS  
ON CONSULAR NEGOTIATIONS

1. ON THE EVENING OF FEBRUARY 13 GDR AMBASSADOR TO THE  
U.S. ROLF SIEBER, DR. HANS-MAETIN GEYER (DIRECTOR,  
FONMIN NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION) AND MRS. GEYER CALLED AT  
RESIDENCE. DCM, MRS. GROVE AND MY WIFE WERE PRESENT.

2. SIEBER IMMEDIATELY RAISED WITH ME THE SUBJECT OF  
CONSULAR NEGOTIATIONS. WITHOUT GOING INTO DETAIL, HE  
TOLD ME THAT HE HAD TALKED TO FIRST SECRETARY HONECKER ON  
FEBRUARY 13 AND THAT HONECKER EARNESTLY DESIRED GOOD  
U.S. - GDR RELATIONS. IN SIEBER'S VIEW A GDR CONSULAR  
AGREEMENT WILL BE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE IN THE DEVELOPMENT  
OF OUR RELATIONS.

3. DR. GEYER, IN A CONVERSATION LASTING SOME 20  
MINUTES, REITERATED THE THEME THAT IT WAS NECESSARY  
FOR THE GDR AND U.S., IN THE INITIAL STAGE OF  
RELATIONS, TO "AGREE TO AGREE" AND THAT THE CONSULAR  
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NEGOTIATIONS MUST SUCCEED. HE SAID THAT GDR NEGOTIATOR

KLOBES HAD REPORTED THAT THE U.S. NEGOTIATORS WERE CALM AND BUSINESSLIKE, AND THAT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED ON SUCH MATTERS AS IMMUNITY OF PERSONS, BUILDINGS, FACILITIES, POUCHES AND BAGGAGE.

4. GEYER DID NOT MENTION THE ISSUE OF NATIONALITY, BUT EXPRESSED GREAT SATISFACTION THAT U.S. HAD AGREED ON ON GDR DEFINITION OF CITIZENSHIP (SIC). DR. GEYER THEN SAID THAT U.S. INSISTENCE ON INCLUDING IN THE AGREEMENT LANGUAGE CONFIRMING THE SPECIAL STATUS OF BERLIN, AND IMPLYING THAT EAST BERLIN WAS NOT A PART OF THE GDR, WAS A SURPRISE, AND COULD NOT BE ACCEPTED BY THE GDR. EMBASSY RECEIVED STATE 33524 ONLY ON FEBRUARY 14.) I RESPONDED THAT I WAS NOT ONE OF THE U.S. NEGOTIATORS AND DID NOT KNOW THE DETAILS, BUT THAT HE MUST BE FAMILIAR WITH THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT AND THE U.S. POSITION ON BERLIN. HE RESPONDED THAT HE WAS FAMILIAR WITH ALL DETAILS OF THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT, THAT GDR HAD ASSENTED TO IT AS A MEANS "TOWARD PEACE IN EUROPE", BUT THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR GDR TO HAVE SUCH LANGUAGE IN A CONSULAR AGREEMENT. LATER, HE SAID THAT PERHAPS A FORMULATION COULD BE WORKED OUT.

5. IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH DCM, AMBASSADOR SIEBER, ASKED HOW HE THOUGHT THESE NEGOTIATIONS WERE GOING, ADMITTED THAT HE REMAINED OPTIMISTIC. HE MADE QUITE A POINT OF NOTING THAT FIVE NAMES FROM OUR LIST OF HUMANITARIAN CASES HAD BEEN GIVEN TO THE U.S. SIDE DURING THESE TALKS, SUGESTING THAT WE WOULD BE HEARING MORE FROM THE GDR ABOUT THESE CASES SOON (STATE 33173).COOPER

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